

after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

□ 1815

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Without objection, the concurrent resolution is agreed to.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, House Resolution 567 is laid on the table.

There was no objection.

SENSE OF HOUSE THAT PRESIDENT AND ADMINISTRATION FOCUS APPROPRIATE ATTENTION ON ISSUE OF NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 561) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should focus appropriate attention on the issue of neighborhood crime prevention, community policing and reduction of school crime by delivering speeches, convening meetings, and directing his Administration to make reducing crime an important priority, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, but I shall not object, as I have introduced this resolution to emphasize the importance of crime prevention at the local level and to recognize the efforts of National Night Out.

I am pleased to say that this bipartisan resolution has more than 75 cosponsors. I would like to specifically thank the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary and the chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Crime for their help in bringing this bill to the floor, and the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. RAMSTAD, the cochair of the Law Enforcement Caucus, who has worked tirelessly with me on these important law enforcement issues.

My resolution calls upon the President to focus on neighborhood crime prevention programs, community policing programs, and reducing school crime. It also highlights National Night Out, which is coming up on August 1, as a successful national program, which exemplifies the goals of crime reduction through neighborhood and community efforts.

National Night Out is a nationwide event which combines a nationally coordinated crime prevention campaign with local communities and law en-

forcement organizations to take a stand against crime.

This year's National Night Out is the 107th annual event in the campaign by the National Association of Town Watch to fight crime. National Night Out has grown year after year, and now includes citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, Canadian citizens and military bases worldwide.

In 1999, 32.5 million people participated in National Night Out. Those 32 million people joined together and sent a message, loud and clear, that they do not want crime in our neighborhoods and streets and that they want to keep working together until our communities are safe.

I firmly believe that a focus on neighborhood and community crime prevention is essential. It is for this reason that I have long supported the COPS Program in the Department of Justice, and I am a strong supporter of National Night Out.

As a former police officer who used to fight crime on the local and State level, I can tell you these programs work. Personal involvement in one's community, individual attention to our youth, taking responsibility for ourselves and others, these things make a difference.

Each of us will be returning next week to our districts for the August recess. I hope that each of us will take the opportunity to participate in National Night Out events in our communities, and show the strength of our national commitment to stop crime and keep our communities safe.

I also take this opportunity to urge President Clinton to continue to focus national attention on reducing crime and to continue his efforts to promote neighborhood crime prevention and community policing. It is true that crime has been going down under his watch, but we can and must do more.

National Night Out community events need not only happen once a year. I would like to see a time come when our communities get together with the same unity and spirit on these parades, youth events and cookouts, not because they are fighting crime, but because their communities are safe enough, close enough, and involved enough that their cooperation and unity is an everyday occurrence. That is the America of the past, and it can be the America of the future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous consent of this House resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 561

Whereas neighborhood crime is of continuing concern to the American people;

Whereas the fight against neighborhood crime requires people to work together in cooperation with law enforcement officials;

Whereas neighborhood crime watch organizations are effective at promoting awareness about, and the participation of volunteers in, crime prevention activities at the local level;

Whereas neighborhood crime watch groups can contribute to the Nation's war on drugs by helping to prevent their communities from becoming markets for drug dealers;

Whereas crime and violence in schools is of continuing concern to the American people due to the recent high-profile incidents that have resulted in fatalities at several schools across the United States;

Whereas community-based programs involving law enforcement, school administrators, teachers, parents, and local communities work effectively to reduce school violence and crime;

Whereas citizens across America will soon take part in a "National Night Out", a unique crime prevention event which will demonstrate the importance and effectiveness of community participation in crime prevention efforts by having people spend the period from 7 to 10 o'clock P.M. on August 1, 2000, with their neighbors in front of their homes with their lights on; and

Whereas schools that turn their lights on from 7 to 10 o'clock P.M. on August 1, 2000, would send a positive message to the participants of "National Night Out" and would show their commitment to reduce crime and violence in schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should focus appropriate attention on the issue of neighborhood crime prevention, community policing, and reduction of school crime by delivering speeches, convening meetings, and directing his Administration to make reducing crime an important priority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resolution was agreed to.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RELIGIOUS LAND USE AND INSTITUTIONALIZED PERSONS ACT OF 2000

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 2869) to protect religious liberty, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object; but I ask the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CANADY) to explain the bill.

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NADLER. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for yielding.

The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act is a bill designed to protect the free exercise of religion from unnecessary governmental interference. The legislation